

on an application filed by Nicholas A. Rodgers ("the Rodgers patent");

3. rejects claims 4-11, 16, 25, 42-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over the Richard patent in view of United States Patent no. 4,893,430 entitled "Multi-Jointed Beaded Fishing Worm Lure" which issued January 16, 1990, on an application filed by Timmy R. Barfield ("the Barfield patent");
4. rejects claims 22-23, 37-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over United States Patent no. 4,970,808 entitled "Electro-Acoustical Fishing Lure" which issued November 20, 1990, on an application filed by Lewis E. Massie ("the Massie patent");
5. rejects claims 13-15, 40-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over the Richard patent;
6. rejects claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over the Rodgers patent;
7. rejects claims 4-11, 16, 25, 42-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over the Richard patent in view of United States Patent no. 4,893,430 entitled "Multi-Jointed Beaded Fishing Worm Lure" which issued January 16, 1990, on an application filed by Timmy R. Barfield ("the Barfield patent");
8. rejects claims 4-11, 16, 25, 42-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over the Richard patent in view of United States Patent no. 4,893,430

entitled "Multi-Jointed Beaded Fishing Worm Lure" which issued January 16, 1990, on an application filed by Timmy R. Barfield ("the Barfield patent");

Description of the Amendments

Independent claims 1, 17, 22, 24, 27, 37, 40 and 43 have been amended to traverse rejections set forth in the Examiner's Action dated February 13, 2002. Dependent claims 2, 15, 17-19, 23-26, 29-31, 33, 35, 39, 41 and 44 have been amended to conform with the terminology of the amended claims from which they respectively depend.

The Claimed Invention

The invention, as presently expressed in the independent claims, is fishing gear which includes an electret for inducing a strike response in fish.

Argument

As stated above, all of the pending independent claims have been amended to fishing gear that includes an electret for inducing a strike response in fish. None of the fishing gear disclosed in any of the references cited in the Examiner's Action discloses use of an electret for inducing a strike response in fish.

The amendments of the claims set forth above do not introduce new matter into the application, because the application as originally filed:

1. depicts use of an electret for inducing a strike response in fish in FIGs. 17 and 17a; and
2. describes use of an electret for inducing a strike response in fish on page 20 in lines 12-17 and page 20, line 29 through page 21, line 31.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully submits that pending amended independent claims 1, 17, 22, 24, 27, 37, 40 and 43 all traverse rejection because

1. the fishing gear encompassed by those claims includes use of an electret for inducing a strike response in fish; and
2. none of the fishing gear disclosed in any of the references cited in the Examiner's Action discloses use of an electret for inducing a strike response in fish.

Because pending amended independent claims 1, 17, 22, 24, 27, 37, 40 and 43 all traverse rejection, the Applicant respectfully submits that pending dependent claims 2-16, 18-21, 23, 25, 26, 28-36, 38, 39, 41, 42 and 44-47 are allowable because they respectively depend, either directly or indirectly, from an allowable independent claim.

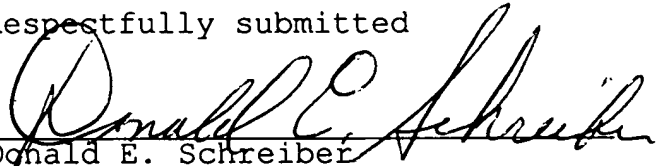
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Because for the reasons set forth above after entry of the amendments set forth above claims 1-47 are all allowable, the Applicant respectfully requests that all rejections set forth in the Examiner's Action dated February 13, 2002, be withdrawn, and this application pass promptly to issue.

Respectfully submitted


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Sherif Safwat

Docket no. 2146

Serial no.: 09/674,443

Filed : October 27, 2000

For : BIOELECTRIC SIMULATING
FISHHOOK AND LURE AND METH-
OD OF USING SAME

**COPY OF PAPERS
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Art Unit : 3643

Examiner: Kurt C. Rowan

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENTS MADE BY REWRITING
THAT ARE MARKED-UP TO SHOW ALL CHANGES
RELATIVE TO THE PRIOR VERSION**

In the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 15, 17-19, 22-27, 29-31, 33, 35, 37, 39-41, 43
and 44 have been amended as indicated below.

1. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating fishhook comprising:
a[n electrically conductive] shank having an eye formed at an
end thereof, the eye adapting the fishhook for coupling to a
fishing line;

5 a[n electrically conductive] bend formed at an end of the
shank distal from the eye;

a point formed at an end of the bend distal from the shank;
and

a self-contained bioelectric simulating means[formed solely
10 by material exposed on the fishhook and which, upon immersion of
the fishhook in water, immediately provides an electromagnetic

field distributed along the fishhook that extends between at least two separated locations on the fishhook] which. to induce a strike response in fish, ^{4A} includes an electret and is disposed on the
15 shank.

2. (Amended) The fishhook of claim 1 wherein said bioelectric simulating means further includes:

an anodic segment, formed by an anodic material, that is located along the fishhook where said anodic segment becomes
5 exposed to water upon immersion of the fishhook therein; and

a cathodic segment, formed by a cathodic material, that is also located along the fishhook where said cathodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the fishhook therein, and that is separated from the anodic segment.

15. (Amended) The fishhook of claim 14 wherein said bioelectric simulating means further includes:

an anodic segment, formed by an anodic material, that is located along a first bend of the bends where said anodic segment
5 becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the fishhook therein; and

a cathodic segment, formed by a cathodic material, that is also located along a second bend of the bends where said cathodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the fishhook
10 therein.

17. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating artificial lure comprising:

a body; and

at least one fine[, electrically conductive] strand, said[
5 electrically conductive] strand having a section secured in said
body and at least another section that protrudes out from said
body, at least a section of said[electrically conductive] strand
which protrudes from said body[being treated to provide] having at
least a portion of a self-contained bioelectric simulating means[
10 which upon immersion in water produces an electromagnetic field
about the artificial lure] which includes an electret and is
disposed on said strand to induce a strike response in fish.

18. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 17 wherein a
treated section of said[electrically conductive] strand[provides]
further includes an anodic segment when said[electrically
conductive] strand becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the
5 artificial lure therein.

19. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 18 wherein a
treated section of said[electrically conductive] strand also[
provides] further includes a cathodic segment when said[electri-
cally conductive] strand becomes exposed to water upon immersion of
5 the artificial lure therein.

22. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating skirt adapted to be secured to an artificial lure comprising:

a plurality of fine[, electrically conductive] strands each having[:

5 an anodic segment, formed by an anodic material, that is located along said electrically conductive strands where said anodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the skirt therein; and

10 a cathodic segment, formed by a cathodic material, that is also located along said electrically conductive strands where said cathodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the skirt therein, and that is separated from the anodic segment;

upon immersion of the skirt into water said electrically conductive
15 strands producing an electromagnetic field about the skirt] at least a portion of a self-contained bioelectric simulating means which includes an electret disposed on at least one of said strands to induce a strike response in fish.

23. (Amended) The skirt of claim 22 wherein said[electrical-ly conductive] strands further comprise an insulating segment, formed by an electrically insulating material, that is located along at least one of said[electrically conductive] strands
5 between[said] an anodic segment and[said] a cathodic segment of the bioelectric simulating means where said insulating segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the skirt therein for

insulating said[electrically conductive] strand thereabout from electrical contact with the water.

24. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating bait spear adapted for attachment to an artificial lure comprising:

at least one[electrically conductive] strand adapted for insertion into an artificial lure, said[electrically conductive]
5 strand having[:

an anodic segment, formed by an anodic material, that is located along said electrically conductive strand where said anodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the bait spear therein; and

10 a cathodic segment, formed by a cathodic material, that is also located along said electrically conductive strand where said cathodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the bait spear therein, and that is separated from the anodic segment;

15 upon immersion of the bait spear into water said electrically conductive strand producing an electromagnetic field about the bait spear] at least a portion of a self-contained bioelectric simulating means which includes an electret disposed on said strand to induce a strike response in fish.

25. (Amended) The bait spear of claim 24 wherein said[electrically conductive] strand further comprise an insulating segment, formed by an electrically insulating material, that is

located along said[electrically conductive] strand between[said]
5 an anodic segment and[said] a cathodic segment where said
insulating segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the
bait spear therein for insulating said[electrically conductive]
strand thereabout from electrical contact with the water.

26. (Amended) The bait spear of claim 24 wherein said[
electrically conductive] strand is U-shaped[with the anodic
segment and cathodic segment located respectively on parallel arms
of the U-shaped electrically conductive strand, the U-shape of the
5 electrically conductive] thereby adapting said strand[being
adapted] for piercing through the artificial lure.

27. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating artificial lure
comprising:

a solid body having[:

5 an anodic segment, formed with an anodic material, that
is located on the body where said anodic segment becomes
exposed to water upon immersion of the artificial lure
therein; and

10 a cathodic segment, formed with a cathodic material, that
is also located on the body where said cathodic segment
becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the artificial lure
therein, and that is separated from the anodic segment;
upon immersion of the artificial lure into water the anodic segment
and cathodic segment producing an electromagnetic field about the

artificial lure] at least a portion of a self-contained bioelectric
15 simulating means which includes an electret disposed on said body
to induce a strike response in fish.

29. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 28 wherein said body further includes electrically conductive material that interconnects[the] an anodic segment with[the] a cathodic segment.

30. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 27 wherein[the] an anodic material is embedded within a porous material that forms at least a portion of said body.

31. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 27 wherein[the] a cathodic material is embedded within a porous material that forms at least a portion of said body.

33. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 27 wherein[the] an anodic segment of the artificial lure is replaceable.

35. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 27 wherein[the] a cathodic segment of the artificial lure is replaceable.

37. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating sticker adapted to be fastened to an artificial lure comprising:

a sheet of material that includes securing means for fastening said sheet to the artificial lure, said sheet having[:

5 an anodic segment, formed with an anodic material, that is located on the sheet where said anodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the sheet therein; and

 a cathodic segment, formed with a cathodic material, that is also located on the sheet where said cathodic segment
10 Becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the sheet therein, and that is separated from the anodic segment;

upon immersion of the artificial lure having the sticker fastened thereto into water the anodic segment and cathodic segment produce an electromagnetic field about the artificial lure] a self-
15 contained bioelectric simulating means which includes an electret disposed thereon to induce a strike response in fish.

39. (Amended) The artificial lure of claim 37 wherein a portion of said sheet between[the] an anodic segment thereof and[the] a cathodic segment thereof includes an electrically insulating material.

40. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating fishhook comprising:

a[n electrically conductive] bend;

a point formed at a first end of the bend;

a[n electrically conductive] shank extending from a second end
5 of the bend distal from said point, said shank also having an eye formed at an end thereof that is distal from the bend;

extension hardware coupled to the eye that adapts the fishhook for coupling to a fishing line; and

self-contained bioelectric simulating means[one portion of
10 which is located at said extension hardware and another portion of which is located elsewhere] on the fishhook, said bioelectric simulating means[upon being immersed in water producing an electromagnetic field about the fishhook] including an electret to induce a strike response in fish.

41. (Amended) The fishhook of claim 40 wherein said bioelectric simulating means further includes:

an anodic segment, formed by an anodic material, that is located on the extension hardware where said anodic segment becomes
5 exposed to water upon immersion of the fishhook therein; and

a cathodic segment, formed by a cathodic material, that is located along the fishhook separated from said extension hardware where said cathodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the fishhook therein.

43. (Amended) A bioelectric simulating trailer rod adapted to be secured to a bend of a fishhook, the trailer rod comprising:

a shank adapted for having an eye formed at one end thereof for securing the trailer rod to the bend of the fishhook; and

5 self-contained bioelectric simulating means located on the trailer rod, said bioelectric simulating means[upon being immersed

in water producing an electromagnetic field about the trailer rod] including an electret to induce a strike response in fish.

44. (Amended) The trailer rod of claim 43 wherein said bioelectric simulating means further includes:

an anodic segment, formed by an anodic material, that is located on the trailer rod where said anodic segment becomes
5 exposed to water upon immersion of the trailer rod therein; and

a cathodic segment, formed by a cathodic material, that is located on the trailer rod separated from the anodic segment where said cathodic segment becomes exposed to water upon immersion of the trailer rod therein.